



AFCA hosts course until Keesler resumes training this month

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SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — After Hurricane Katrina slammed the Gulf Coast last August, the 333rd Training Squadron's advanced communications training courses at Keesler AFB, Miss., needed a temporary home.

Billeting for students at Keesler was in short supply, which placed the class schedule in jeopardy, so Col. Robert Steele, commander of the Air Force Communications Agency at Scott AFB, opened the Agency's doors and classrooms to the unit's instructors and students.

The first of two sessions of the Air Force's Communications Battlespace Management Course, or CBMC, was held at AFCA from Jan. 18 to Feb. 3 for 37 students in the grades of captain to major, as well as civilian equivalents. The second session began Feb. 13.

CBMC, formerly known as the Advanced Communications and Information Officer Training Course, or ACOT, is held six times per year.

The course revisits foundational knowledge relevant to field grade officers in the Communications and Information profession. The course format consists of prerequisite reading followed by an in-residence forum with presentations from C&I subject matter experts. This forum enables students to discuss issues they are currently facing, or soon will be.

The forum's final week includes guest speakers from the Scope Eagle program, which draws its speakers from senior communicators across the Air Force, as well as other services and government agencies. Scope Eagle is held in conjunction with CBMC five times per year. It hosts 20 students in the grades of lieutenant colonel to colonel, or the civilian equivalent, who are invited to attend.

Scope Eagle is the Air Force's top professional development course for the C&I career field. It

provides a forum for senior leaders to engage in strategic discussions of Air Force and Joint C&I issues, as well as the future of the career field.

During the sixth CBMC of the year, Scope Eagle is replaced by Scope Warrior and involves more senior leaders, as well as the chief of warfighting integration and chief information officer for the Air Force.

"Members of the Agency and I are happy to provide a temporary home for the 333rd anytime, especially during this time of rebuilding," said Col. Steele. "These courses are essential in providing leaders with the knowledge they need to guide the Air Force into the future of information technology."

Training for both courses is expected to resume at Keesler AFB in April.

Rodney Mase from Scott AFB, Ill.; Maj. Joe Nelson, Hickam AFB, Hawaii; and Capt. Michael Hass, Peterson AFB, Colo., participate in an exercise during the course.